



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WESTON
LOCAL POSITIONS**

**Public/Voter Participation in Weston Town Meetings (2001) amended 2008,
2010. 2021**

The League of Women Voters of Weston, with the objective of increasing public/voter awareness of and participation in town meetings, urges Weston Town Government to take the following measures:

1. Provide full and timely information about upcoming town meetings through available public media and other communication tools; provide enhanced outreach for elections, the Annual Town Budget Meeting, and other opportunities to vote as well as public hearings, and other town-wide opportunities for broad public participation (as in survey's, planning workshops, etc.).
2. Provide for regular public access television, Internet, and video/teleconferencing coverage of town meetings (via Zoom and any other such service as may evolve) and provide public/voter access to meeting recordings and minutes via various available means.

Land Use in Weston (1996) amended 2013

We, the Weston League, support the establishment of a process for active implementation of the Town Plan of Development, with special emphasis on long-range land use and acquisition planning.

This process should include, but not be limited to:

1. Coordinating the involvement of relevant agencies, consistent with the Town Charter.
2. Periodically reviewing use of existing town-owned lands.
3. Creating and maintaining an inventory of remaining open space within the town.
4. Evaluating land for possible acquisition to meet future town needs.
5. Creating a financial plan for future land acquisition.
6. Developing alternate plans for land acquisition (obtaining gifts, easements, rights of first refusal, etc. for remaining parcels of potential interest to the town).
7. Periodically holding a public review of the progress of Town Plan implementation.

We support ongoing long-range land-use and facilities planning specifically designed to meet current and future public needs and promote a sense of community. Planning, with extensive public input, should include, but not be limited to, consideration of parcels for uses such as:

1. Town and school facilities.
2. Active recreation (playing fields, an ice skating rink, etc.).
3. A multigenerational community center.
4. Alternative housing.

5. “Green ways” interconnecting existing town and/or other open space for preservation of habitat and use for walking, biking, and riding trails.
6. Neighborhood “vest pocket” parks.
7. A town cemetery.

Alternative Housing in Weston (1989)

The Town of Weston should adopt zoning modifications within the parameters of two-acre zoning to allow for:

1. Cluster-zoned housing where the current overall density of one house per two acres remains the same in principle.
2. Cluster homes with a common wall where two-acre zoning remains the same overall.
3. An apartment loosely connected to the main house.

The Town of Weston should:

1. Promote expanded awareness of current housing options and available government housing assistance programs.
2. Offer town-coordinated advice on financial, technical, and other concerns for planning accessory apartments.
3. Study the special housing needs of those who are aging in place, retired, and/or empty nesters. Develop additional programs to meet any such needs that may be identified.

All recommendations are supported with the understanding that the quality and quantity of the water supply in Weston be protected and the character of the Town be preserved.

Water Supply Protection in Weston (1987) amended 2006

The League of Women Voters of Weston recommends action to protect the quality and the quantity of the water supply in Weston, a town almost entirely dependent upon well water. We are concerned about groundwater sources and flow, waste disposal, and pollution control.

The League specifically recommends:

1. Encouraging testing of well water at reasonable time intervals.
2. Encouraging periodic cleaning of septic tanks.
3. Adoption of water pollution control and aquifer protection ordinances to help insure a safe and sufficient potable water supply.
4. Documentation of the location of the well, septic system, and fuel storage tank, (including any inspection records), to be presented to a homebuyer by the seller at the time of sale.
5. Continuation of Town funded household hazardous waste collections.
6. Education of the local residents regarding their responsibility to safeguard the quality and the quantity of Weston’s water supply.

